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{page 28}

LONG-GUN REGISTRY ON LIFE SUPPORT AFTER VOTE

{page 8}

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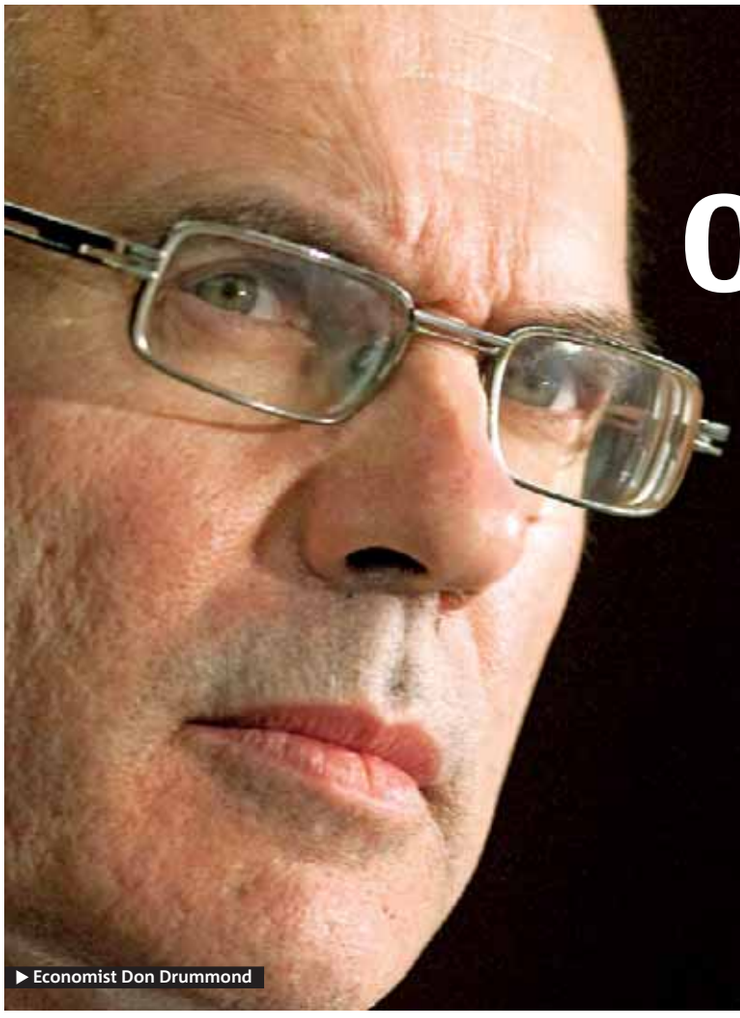
CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS



▶ Economist Don Drummond

Rx for a sick Ontario budget

▶ Larger classes, fewer teachers, pricey utilities

Bigger class sizes, higher electricity and water bills, and new parking fees at public-transit stations are among the bitter pills deficit-ridden Ontario must swallow to avoid the same fate as debt-plagued Greece, economist Don Drummond warned Wednesday.

Unless all 362 of his recommendations are implemented, Canada's most populous province will double its deficit by 2017-18 and grow its debt to $411.4 billion — a little more than half its gross domestic product, he predicted in his long-awaited austerity blueprint for Ontario.

"Ontario's finances do not yet constitute a crisis, and with early strong action a crisis can be averted," the report states.

Even if the Liberals stick to their current plan to slay the deficit by 2017-18, the province will still end up with a $30 billion shortfall, Drummond calculates.

Ontario needs to cap annual growth in program spending at just 0.8 per cent, which would slash real program spending by 16.2 per cent for every man, woman and child, the report advises.

Annual spending growth in health care must be capped at 2.5 per cent, education at one per cent, post-secondary education at 1.5 per cent and social programs at 0.5 per cent. Spending in all other programs will have to be cut by 2.4 per cent.

Health care must become more efficient to maintain services, the former TD Bank chief economist said. He recommends Ontario join with other provinces and the federal government to buy drugs, tie public-drug-plan benefits to income, allow nurses, physician assistants and pharmacists to provide more services where possible, and divert patients who don't require acute care out of hospitals and into less expensive care facilities and accelerate the adoption of electronic records.

Household bills could also take a hit, with Drummond recommending the province scrap a 10 per cent rebate on electricity bills, and charge more to recover the full cost of water and wastewater services. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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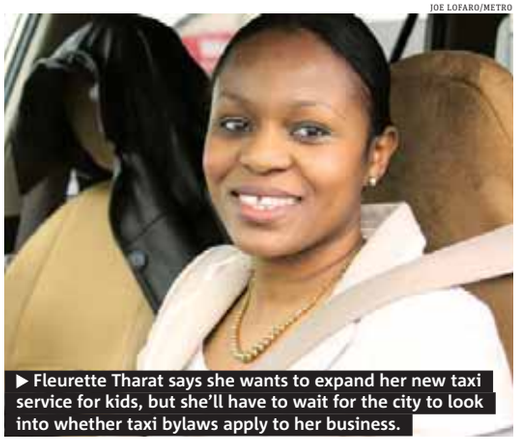
City looking into 'taxi' service for kids

JOE LOFARO/METRO



▶ Fleurette Tharat says she wants to expand her new taxi service for kids, but she'll have to wait for the city to look into whether taxi bylaws apply to her business.

An Ottawa woman is hoping to keep her new taxi service for kids running while the city investigates it following a bylaw complaint.

Fleurette Tharat started Fleurette Kids Taxi three weeks ago to offer busy parents a safe transportation service to get their kids from one place to another.

But Hanif Patni, the president and CEO of Coventry Connections, which operates Blue Line, Capital and DJ's taxis in Ottawa, said Tharat's business amounts to a bandit cab firm and she needs to meet city taxi requirements.

"I think that she is providing a commendable service," said Patni. "There's no reason why she can't operate as long as she's meeting the same standards, because it's very expensive for us to do this."

Tharat, a mother of two, meets with parents, presents her early-childhood-education diploma from La Cité Collégiale and her criminal-record check, which she says is clean. She charges between $20 and $40 per ride.

Despite the name, Tharat says her business is not a taxi service.

"We build a relationship with parents and kids and we make sure they're in a secure position," Tharat said.

She said she met with city officials before launching to see if she needed to abide by any taxi bylaws and is waiting to hear back from bylaw service assistant Greg Ward.

"Ward said he needed to consult with his supervisor," Tharat said. Ward could not be reached for comment. JOE LOFARO

Saying it with flowers didn't work

- Shop delivers flowers a day late
- Isn't sure what went wrong

JESSICA SMITH
@METRONEWS.CA

JESSICA SMITH/METRO

▶ Frederic Pierre is seen outside his workplace in Gatineau. He tried to send flowers to his wife at her workplace on Valentine's Day, but they never arrived.

Florists worked through their busiest day of the year on Valentine's Day, but that wasn't much comfort to a local man who said he had some explaining to do when the flowers he ordered for his wife never arrived.

Frederic Pierre ordered flowers online the morning of Feb. 13 and asked them to be delivered to his wife on the morning of Valentine's Day .

"By noon, I didn't hear anything from my wife saying thank you, so I called them," he said. He was directed to a voice-mail box that was full, and by the end of the day his wife still had no flowers.

"So I didn't get her anything for Valentine's Day and she got me something, so I felt pretty bad," he said.

OttawaFlowers.com owner Pavel Bogdanov said his records show Pierre's order was created, but never delivered and he doesn't know what went wrong.

Of about 1,500 Valentine's Day deliveries, 15 weren't completed — only about one per cent of orders, he said.

"The majority of those were due to specific time lines that were unattainable due to Valentine's," he said.

OttawaFlowers.com had to stop taking orders at 10 a.m. on Valentines Day because they were so busy, said Bogdanov.

"Any florist who isn't overwhelmed (on Valentine's Day) isn't a good florist," he said.

Wednesday, Pierre got a refund and his wife got two bouquets — one Pierre ordered from another company to make it up to her and the late order from OttawaFlowers.com.

1 news

Computers and tech gadgets in the classroom make for good PR, but a new report suggests they're not creating better learners. Scan the code for the story.

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Josh Dueck, Kimberley, B.C.'s newly famous paraplegic stunt skier, hits the Ellen show. Watch at metronews.ca/video

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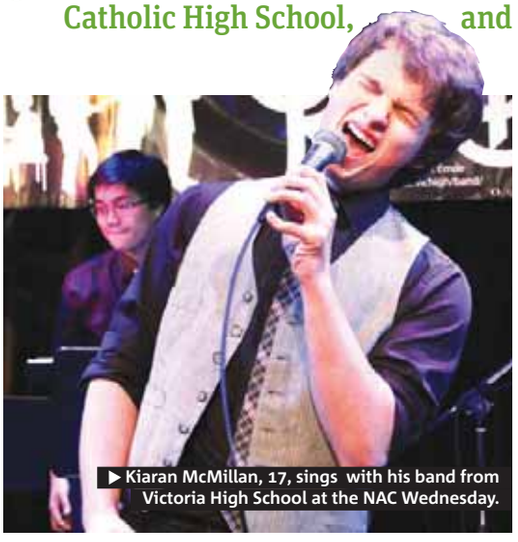
- Martha Reeves, lead singer of soul and R&B group Martha and the Vandellas, was so enamoured with Victoria High School band when they visited her in Detroit in 2005 that she went to visit the school a year later
- The school band was at the National Arts Centre Wednesday for an exchange program with Kanata's Holy Trinity Catholic High School, and Reeves — a Motown legend — was invited to do another workshop

'A different flavour' of Motown



▶ Kiaran McMillan, 17, sings with his band from Victoria High School at the NAC Wednesday.

TEXT, PHOTOS BY:
JOE LOFARO
@METRONEWS.CA

Motown icon Martha Reeves listened to high-school students sing their hearts out at the National Arts Centre on Wednesday, including one of her own tunes, Dancing in the Streets.

The performance of that tune by Victoria High School student Soleil Demers, 17, won a standing ovation from Reeves and about 100 guests at the Fourth Stage.

Students from school bands at Holy Trinity Catholic High School, in Kanata, and Victoria High School, in Victoria, B.C., graced the stage, with Reeves in front row, clanging her tambourine to the beat of each song.

Reeves was in Ottawa to teach the students a few vocal tips at a music workshop before the performance.

"It was wonderful," Reeves said after the show.

She called Demers' cover of her song a "different flavour."

"I thought it was very good; a good interpretation of it."

▶ Holy Trinity Catholic High School student Rachel Ciolfi was the first lead singer to take the stage at the NAC on Wednesday.

▶ Martha Reeves sings a short tune at the NAC's Fourth Stage Wednesday after accepting flowers from students and organizers.

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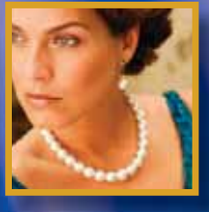

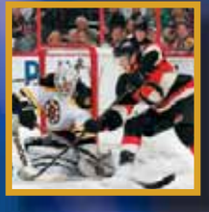

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Local bar owners butt heads over butting out

If city council passes new anti-smoking bylaws, smoking patrons will have to move several feet away from sidewalk patios while they puff

JESSICA SMITH
@METRONEWS.CA

A proposal to ban smoking on bar and restaurant patios is proving controversial — not just among smoking and non-smoking patrons but also among bar owners as well.

The community and protective service committee approved new bylaws Wednesday that will ban smoking on city property — including beaches and parks — and on bar and restaurant patios.

If council approves the ban, it will start in April with a probationary period, then take full effect July 2.

Ban supporter Toni Naje owns two local bars, the Firkin & Flyer on Riverside Drive and the Firkin & Knight on Merrivale Road. Both have had non-smoking patios since opening because Naje has asthma.

Business has always been good but not everyone is happy with the policy, he said.

"Right now a lot people won't go to us because they have a choice to go anywhere else to smoke," he said. "I have a lot of patrons who call me prejudiced, and they swear and yell and scream and say that I'm out to piss them off, have no respect for them or I'm trying to tell them how to live their lives."

"I just want people to be able to go out and enjoy without having to suffocate."
TONI NAJE, BAR OWNER WHO SUPPORTS THE ANTI-SMOKING BAN

Bell's Corners Business Improvement Area head Alex Lewis said bar owners in his area strongly oppose the tougher bylaw, not because they support smoking but because they want to make their own decisions.

"What our BIA is advocating for is the ability to practise private enterprise," he said. "The world would be a much better place if everybody would butt out. The world would be a much better place as well if the government would butt out of business."

Not all BIAs agree. Jasna Jennings, the ByWard Market BIA's executive director, told the committee her group supports the new bylaws as long as they're enforced equally.

JESSICA SMITH/METRO

▶ Nancy Côté smokes a cigarette near a patio on Slater Street Wednesday.

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City could be out of luck on herbal hookah ban

JESSICA SMITH/METRO FILE

▶ Carl Joyce, left, Carrolyn Pich and James Burgess enjoy shisha in the ByWard Market last June.

City councillors told staff Wednesday to look into how to ban the smoking of water pipes — better known as shisha or hookah pipes — on city land.

City solicitor Rick O'Connor said the issue is complicated because the city cannot just ban water-pipe smoking in bars for public health reasons the way it can cigarette smoking.

The difference? O'Connor said there is not enough evidence to prove smoking an herbal product instead of tobacco is unhealthy, and without evidence the bylaw could be challenged in court.

Proponents of banning water pipes say that water pipes are dangerous, whether they are used to smoke tobacco or a tobacco-free herbal product, in part because they use burning charcoal. Furthermore, in a recent inspection of the city's 20 known water-pipe establishments, almost all were found to be illegally using a product that contains tobacco.

However, the city might be able to ban the use of water pipes as a public nuisance whether they can prove the health hazard or not, O'Connor said.

JESSICA SMITH

Most support cuts, poll finds

About two-thirds of Canadians contacted for a recent poll said they believe balancing the budget and reducing the federal deficit should be a very high or high priority for the federal government — but Canadians are more divided when it comes to cutting public-service jobs as a deficit-fighting plan.

Ottawa-based Abacus Data found 65 per cent of Canadians want to reduce the deficit. When told that the federal government is considering cutting thousands of jobs in the federal public service, 61 per cent said they support the plan, 18 per cent said they were opposed and 21 per cent were apparently unsure, saying they neither support nor oppose the plan. **JESSICA SMITH**

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Gun registry bill passes House

On life support after Tory win in Commons Senate will pull plug

Federal Tories erupted in cheers Wednesday after finally securing House of Commons approval to scrap the controversial long-gun registry.

The Harper government used its majority to pass the bill by a vote of 159-130, with the support of two maverick New Democrats — John Rafferty and Bruce Hyer.

All other NDP, Liberal, Bloc Québécois and Green MPs voted against it.

"Many of us have waited for this day for a very long time," said Public Safety Minister Vic Toews.

Toews said the registry — created by Jean Chrétien's Liberal government after the massacre of 14 women at Montreal's École Polytechnique in 1989 — is "a billion-dollar boondoggle" that does nothing but penalize law-abiding hunters and farmers.

"It does nothing to help put an end to gun crime, nor has it saved one Canadian life," he argued.

The vote effectively puts the registry on life support. All that remains is for the Senate to pull the plug.

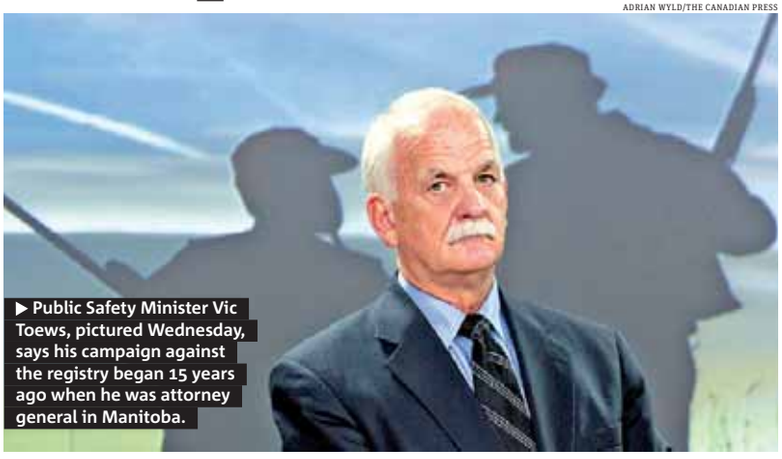
Since the Tories enjoy a commanding majority in the upper chamber as well, the registry's fate is sealed.

Women's groups and victims of gun violence expressed outrage.

Quebec says the moment the bill is enacted, the province will launch court action to prevent registry records from being destroyed.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS



▶ Public Safety Minister Vic Toews, pictured Wednesday, says his campaign against the registry began 15 years ago when he was attorney general in Manitoba.

Trouble in store?

What will be the fate of maverick New Democrats John Rafferty and Bruce Hyer for defying the party's line on the gun registry?

- Interim NDP leader Nycole Turmel said there will be "consequences" for them.
- But it's unclear what more she can do to the pair, who also broke ranks when the registry bill was put to a second reading vote last November.
- At that time, Turmel suspended their travel privileges and banned them from participating in question period, sitting on committees or making public statements.

Battle over mandatory sentences brewing

The Harper government is keeping its powder dry in the face of a court judgment that delivered a broadside to mandatory minimum sentences.

An Ontario Superior Court judge ruled this week that sending a first-time offender to prison for three years for possessing a loaded, illegal gun is "cruel and unusual punishment."

Prime Minister Stephen Harper told the Commons on Tuesday: "I think Canadians believe the courts have not been tough enough in dealing with gun crime."

With mandatory minimum drug and sex sentences awaiting passage by the Senate, the battle is set to begin.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Gasp! He'll walk a tightrope over the Falls

Daredevil Nik Wallenda is eager to walk the walk after getting approval for his plan to cross Niagara Gorge on a tightrope.

The Niagara Parks Commission board gave its thumbs-up at a public meeting Wednesday, reversing an earlier decision against the stunt.

Wallenda says it brings him one step closer to his dream of walking along a cable, five centimetres in diameter, stretched across the gorge from the United States to Canada.

"To get that green light, I feel like I'm on top of the world," he said.

The board says it now has 45 days to work out details — including a date for the walk — with the man who calls himself "King of the High Wire."

Wallenda, 32, had been hoping for a day in July or August, but the commission is looking at June, before the busy tourist season begins.

The tightrope walker, who is descended from the famous circus performers The Flying Wallendas, saw his request turned down in December.

But he met with senior staff after talking to Tourism Minister Michael Chan about the proposal.

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo signed legislation last year allowing Wallenda to walk over the gorge.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

DAVID DUPREY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Nik Wallenda says he feels "like I'm on top of the world" after getting the green light for his Niagara walk.

High-wire cash

- A study has suggested that live TV coverage of the event could help generate a $120-million shot in the arm to Niagara's economy.
- Janice Thomson, chair of the Niagara Parks Commission, said the board will only consider requests for such events once every 20 years, and only by people who are skilled professionals.

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Cops' scruples fail to make the grade

Will police call out fellow officers for bad behaviour?

A key indicator of that scored low in a study of policing ethics across the country.

Chief Dale McFee, president of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police, said the study underscores a need among police forces to strengthen ethical leadership.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Pup left to die gets new life

The story of a puppy who was left to die in frigid weather now has a warm-hearted ending.

A North Vancouver couple have agreed to adopt Raider, a terrier-mix puppy from Prince Albert, Sask.

Raider was rescued from the back of an abandoned truck in mid-January by three members of the Prince Albert Raiders, the city's Western Hockey League team.

Josh Morrissey, Shane Danyluk and Carson Perreaux heard the little guy whimpering in the -40 C chill.

Raider needed a lot of treatment: he suffered from mange, a disease that causes hair loss. Nevertheless, the Prince Albert SPCA fielded about 30 inquiries about adoption.

A veterinary company in Ottawa donated all the medicine required to nurse Raider back to full health, free of charge.

"He's been spoiled rotten," said Leanne Roberts from the SPCA.

The hockey players who rescued him visited him before his trip to Vancouver.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Raider

GREGORIO BORGIA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Archbishop of New York Timothy Dolan has called Obama's birth-control plans a "hill of beans."

The mother of an outcry

Obama attacked over birth control Should employers pay for it?

Barack Obama's opponents claim he has "declared war on religion" with his efforts to require employers to provide birth-control coverage for workers.

But a Gallup survey says the U.S. president slipped just three percentage points among Catholics last week as the administration fought publicly with bishops over whether church-affiliated employers should pay for contraception as part of their employees' health plans.

An average of 46 per cent of Catholics, however, said they approved of Obama's job performance.

"A president is at some political risk if he pursues a policy that could anger Catholics," said Gallup's Jeffrey Jones.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

A memorial for cows killed in crash?

An animal-rights group wants to set up a roadside memorial sign in western Manitoba for cows killed in a highway crash.

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, or PETA, is asking the Manitoba government for permission to place a sign along Highway 5 near Carberry, about 170 kilometres west of Winnipeg, where 71 cows died after a semi collided with a train on Jan. 31.

"A memorial sign will serve as a tribute to those dozens of cows who had been severely injured and killed on their way to slaughter," PETA spokesperson Emily Lavender said from Ottawa.

The sign would also be a way to draw attention to the group's concerns over how animals are treated before they reach the slaughterhouse.

"Painful mutilations, transport for often hundreds of kilometres in Canada's freezing winters and scorching hot summers and even prolonged suffering at the slaughterhouse are just the tip of the iceberg," Lavender said.

The group will likely face an uphill battle.

Manitoba has laid out a formal process for approval of such signs that usually involves relatives of the victims.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

LIONEL CIRONNEAU/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Silvio Berlusconi, who stepped down in November.

Italy seeks five-year jail term

Italian prosecutors have demanded a five-year prison sentence for former Premier Silvio Berlusconi in his trial on corruption charges.

Prosecutor Fabio De Pasquale on Wednesday urged the court to find Berlusconi guilty of having paid a British lawyer $600,000 to lie in trials involving charges of tax evasion and false accounting.

The court is racing toward a verdict before the charges expire due to the statute of limitations. De Pasquale calculated that would happen by mid-July.

This is one of several cases pending against Berlusconi, including a trial on charges of having paid for sex with an underage prostitute.

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REGIME CHANGE?

Syria's president calls for national vote

MUZAFFAR SALMAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Syrian soldiers stand guard

As Syrian forces stepped up their assault Wednesday on rebellious cities, President Bashar Assad ordered a referendum, set for Feb. 26, on a new constitution that would create a multiparty system in a country that has been ruled by his autocratic family dynasty for 40 years.

Such a change would have been unheard of a year ago, and Assad's regime is touting the new constitution as the centrepiece of reforms aimed at calming Syria's upheaval. But after 11 months of bloodshed, with well over 5,000 dead in the regime's crackdown on protesters and rebels, Assad's opponents say the referendum and reforms are not enough and that the country's strongman must go.

"The people in the street today have demands, and one of these demands is the departure of this regime," said Khalaf Dahowd, a member of the National Coordination Body for Democratic Change in Syria, an umbrella for several opposition groups in Syria and in exile.

The White House also dismissed the referendum. Press secretary Jay Carney called the move "laughable" in light of ongoing brutality by the Syrian military, and said it "makes a mockery" of the uprising.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Honduras prison fire kills hundreds

◐ 6 people drowned seeking refuge in a water tank inside prison ◐ President suspends top penal officials

FERNANDO ANTONIO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ A woman grieves outside Comayagua prison, where a fire broke out early Wednesday.

A fire started by an inmate tore through an overcrowded prison in Honduras, burning and suffocating screaming men in their locked cells as rescuers desperately searched for keys. As many as 300 people were killed in the world's deadliest prison fire in eight decades.

The local governor, who was once a prison employee, told reporters on Wednesday that an inmate called her moments before the blaze broke out, screaming: "I will set this place on fire and we are all going to die!"

Comayagua Gov. Paola Castro said she called the Red Cross and fire brigade immediately. But firefighters said they were kept outside for half an hour by guards who fired their guns in the air, thinking they had a riot or a breakout on their hands.

Officials have long held little control over conditions inside many Honduran prisons, where inmates have unfettered access to cellphones and other contraband.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

By the numbers

- **Honduras has** one of the world's highest rates of violent crime.
- **Its overcrowded** and dilapidated prisons have been hit by a string of deadly riots and fires in recent years.
- **According to government statistics,** the Comayagua prison was built in the 1940s for 400 people but holds more than 800 prisoners watched over by about 100 guards.
- **Officials said** 272 people were confirmed dead, but many prisoners were unaccounted for and the death toll could go much higher.

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Japan's nuclear standards denounced

Japan's nuclear-safety chief said Wednesday the country's regulations are flawed, outdated and below global standards, and he apologized for their failure when a tsunami crippled one plant last year.

Haruki Madarame admitted Japanese safety requirements, such as those for tsunami and power losses, were too loose and many officials have looked the other way and tried to avoid changes.

"I must admit that the nuclear-safety guidelines that we have issued until now have various flaws," he said. "We've even said that we don't need to consider risks for massive tsunamis and lengthy power outages."

Madarame, who heads the Nuclear Safety Commission, was speaking at a parliament-sponsored inquiry investigating last year's meltdowns at the Fukushima Dai-ichi plant.

The March 11 earthquake and tsunami knocked out power and cooling systems at the plant, sending its three reactors into meltdowns and causing massive radiation leaks. More than 100,000 people around the plant relocated due to fears of radiation impact on their health.

Critics say Japanese safety regulators have missed chances to make improvements when such steps were taken in other countries.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

KOJI SASAHARA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Protesters march with "No Nukes" signs to demand Japan abandon atomic power in Tokyo on Saturday. Worries are growing about the restarting of reactors idled after last March's earthquake and tsunami.

Preparedness

- Japan's Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency has issued emergency safety guidelines requiring nuclear plants nationwide to improve readiness for disasters since the earthquake.
- Only three of Japan's 54 reactors are operating now after authorities ordered all reactors shut down to undergo special tests.

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Deep-freeze death toll rises in Europe

Farmers concerned about their livestock are bringing them into homes Towns remain isolated

More than 650 people have died during a record-breaking cold snap in Eastern Europe, authorities said Wednesday, as officials in the Czech Republic blamed two massive car crashes on blinding snow.

Since the end of January, the region has been pummelled by the deep freeze, which has brought the heaviest blizzards in recent memory. Tens of thousands have been trapped in often-freezing homes and villages by walls of snow and unpassable roads, and officials have struggled to reach out to the vulnerable with emergency food airlifts.

Authorities in Russia and Ukraine alone reported Wednesday that more than 300 people have died in the bitter cold.

About 100 damaged cars blocked a major highway in the Czech Republic connecting the capital, Prague, with the eastern part of the country and Slovakia. Seven people were injured in two separate accidents, authorities said, warning it could be hours before the mangled vehicles are cleared.

Some 40 cars crashed before midday Wednesday during a heavy snowstorm 300 kilometres east of Prague, injuring two people. Dozens of vehicles, including a bus, were involved in a separate crash southeast of Prague, which injured five, according to Czech public CT24 television.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CTK, LUBOS PAVLICEK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ A driver makes slow progress during a heavy snowfall near Veznice, Czech Republic, on Wednesday.

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Shopify takes innovative approach to online retail

Ottawa company's e-stores doubled their merchandise sales in a year

CONTRIBUTED

▶ Harley Finkelstein, chief platform officer of the Ottawa-based e-commerce company Shopify.

When web shoppers buy a plush Angry Birds toy, a Foo Fighters or LMFAO T-shirt, or something from Encyclopedia Britannica, it helps fuel a small but growing Ottawa company that once sold snowboards before getting into the e-store business.

That company is Shopify, which this week was named by Fast Company magazine as one of the 10 most innovative retail businesses in the world.

Co-founder Tobias Lutke created Shopify after realizing back in 2005 just how difficult and expensive it was to launch a web business. After figuring it would cost at least $100,000 to get his snowboard store online, Lutke decided the company ought to design its own e-commerce software.

He quickly realized there was a much better business in helping other entrepreneurs sell their wares online.

"Today, almost six years later, we have over 20,000 active stores selling one or more products every month in more than 80 countries," said Harley Finkelstein, Shopify's chief platform officer. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Cisco challenges Skype takeover in EU court

Networking company Cisco said Wednesday that it is challenging Microsoft's $8.5-billion US takeover of Skype at the European Union's top court to ensure Microsoft won't block other video-conferencing services.

Microsoft completed the deal in October shortly after the European Commission, the EU's competition regulator, cleared the takeover. Microsoft hopes that owning Skype will allow it to better compete with other tech giants including Apple or Google.

But for Cisco Systems, the world's largest maker of computer networking equipment, the Skype deal creates a serious challenger to its video-conferencing systems.

Video-conferencing equipment is a relatively small part of Cisco's overall sales, but it's growing rapidly. Cisco's latest major acquisition was of Tandberg, a Norwegian maker of video-conferencing equipment. Cisco spent $3.4 billion for the company in 2010.

Microsoft said it was confident it would prevail in an appeal. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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Target Canada partners with Starbucks

Discount retailer Target Corp. is partnering with Starbucks to bring coffee shops into its new Canadian stores.

The American chain picked the Seattle-based coffee company to open in the majority of its up to 135 Target stores, it said Wednesday.

The agreement extends the 12-year relationship between Target and Starbucks in the United States. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

GREEK CRISIS

PETROS GIANNAKOURIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Eurozone doubts persist over bailout plan

▶ Greek Finance Minister Evangelos Venizelos

Greece has made progress convincing the rest of the eurozone that it should get a $170-billion US bailout — but the country's austerity efforts will need much tighter surveillance, the chairman of the eurozone's finance ministers said Wednesday.

During a three-hour conference call between the finance chiefs of the 17 countries that use the euro, the ministers received assurances from Greece that it had found a further $325 million in cuts on top of austerity measures already agreed to.

However, in a sign of the deep distrust that has built up — especially among rich euro nations like Germany, the Netherlands and Finland — Jean-Claude Juncker, the prime minister of Luxembourg who also chairs the finance ministers' meetings, said better surveillance mechanisms had to be set up before new aid could be released. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

January home sales down

Canadian home sales posted their biggest monthly decline in a year and a half in January, suggesting the long-expected market slowdown may finally be on its way.

The Canadian Real Estate Association said Wednesday that sales of existing homes fell 4.5 per cent to a seasonally adjusted 38,294 in January from 40,115 the previous month. It was the first monthly decline since August 2011.

The monthly decline reversed a string of increases in the fourth quarter of 2011, CREA said. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Market moment

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. WEDNESDAY

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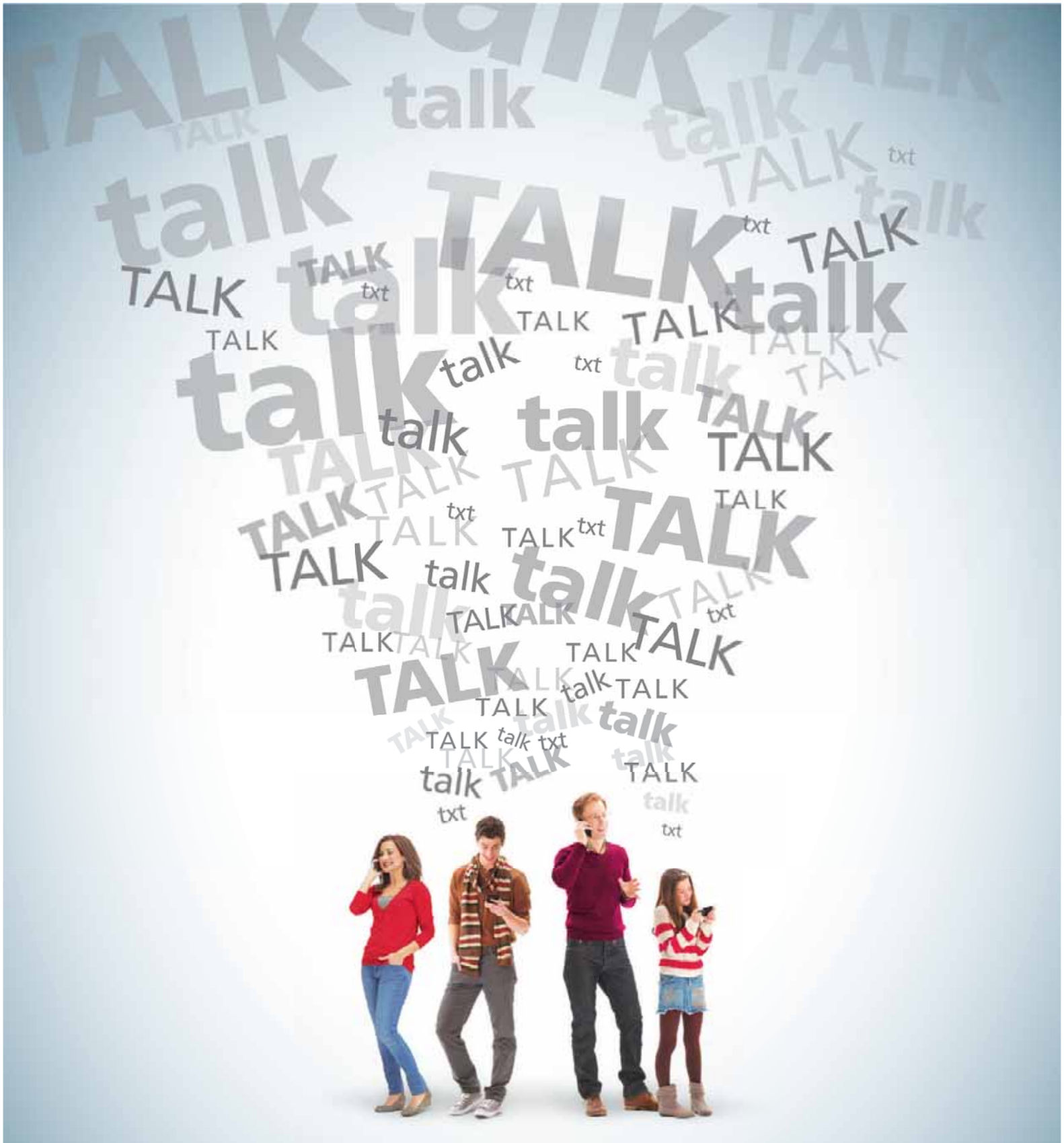

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HE SAYS ...

JOHN MAZEROLLE
METRO

If Canada is known for one thing, it's a history of excellent game shows.

That's why the creators of Survivor, which is currently airing its 24th season, decided the 25th anniversary season would be filmed in its most treacherous location ever! Here's the transcript.

SURVIVOR: CANADA!

[A beaver growls. The McKenzie brothers chant.]

Bob and Doug: Koo-loo-koo-koo-koo-koo-koo-koooo!

Host Jeff Probst: Welcome. For the next two months, a group of American strangers will be stranded ... here ... in "Canada" — a Grizzly-infested peninsula somewhere north of Minnesota. Let's meet our castaways. First — Jimmy, a retired military officer who's about to snap.

Jimmy: You'll all be sorry! The camera crews can't protect you forever!

Probst: Amanda, an exotic dancer known for her enormous wits.

Amanda: My cousin Mary lives here. Do you know her?

Probst: Agnes, a sweet old woman who will be eaten alive by the other contestants, perhaps literally.

Agnes: Let's all play fair.

Probst: And Vance, who inexplicably believes this show makes him a star.

Vance: Hey, America! How you doin'?

Probst: The contestants will be split into groups whose names reflect the local culture: Team Toque and Team Chesterfield. The first competition is a Great Canadian Challenge: Castaways must get their frostbite treated through Medicare. And go!

[The contestants stand in line for three months.]

Probst: Oooh, time's up. I'm afraid nobody wins immunity. And now let's watch as contestants have some introspective time alone with a camera crew and 13 million viewers.

Vance: Everything's good. If I lose, I can get my break in Canadian cinema. That exists, right?

Amanda: It's weird here. Canada's like a whole other country, you know?

Agnes: Everyone's been so nice. Even those squeegee kids who stole our things were very polite.

Jimmy: You took my gun! What kind of place is this?

Probst: It's time for Tribal Council! The results have been counted and, in true Canadian fashion, only one of you voted! Agnes is eliminated.

Agnes: I voted myself off. You all deserve it more.

Probst: Because this is Canada, the tribe must form a subcommittee that will report back on what went wrong for Agnes. Also, Agnes has the right to a lengthy appeals process. The tribe has spoken, Agnes. You can't win the appliances.

Vance: Appliances? What about the million dollars?

Probst: No, sorry, the prize is a lovely Whirlpool washer and dryer, making it the largest award ever on a Canadian game show! That's all for this week. Join us next time, when our castaways face their toughest challenge: One hour with Nickelback! Who will survive?

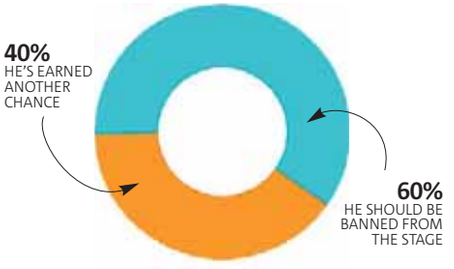
All: We quit.

Probst: It's still better than Bumper Stumpers.

Read more of John Mazerolle's columns at metronews.ca/hesays

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

What do you think of Chris Brown performing at this year's Grammys



Local tweets

- **@kainestman:** Facing backlash, Tories eye rewrite of online-surveillance bill http://t.co/Jb5qBZwa via @globeandmail #privacy #surveillance #cdnpoli
- **@ironkim:** @foodiePrints @lululemon Okay, I suppose smooshing is a rather jersey-shore kind of word to describe it as ;)
- **@KatarinaaBeeoch:** Dreamboat Annie is the best album ever made #heart
- **@JRTeam1200:** When u get re-located at Panthers game apparently you get your own section #Sens
- **@sammiemarleau:** Alex got me the soft kitty shirt from The Big Bang Theory so happy! http://t.co/jq1NJKje
- **@TMDee:** I really love Ryan White's hair. Beautiful.
- **@WillRichards27:** Habs are bar none the biggest plugs in the league

Daily Zoom

ROBERT NEMETI / SOLENT

Egg-cellent armour

Tank built out of egg cartons

LONDON. It looked like shell warfare at England's Imperial War Museum after the unveiling of a "tank" made out of egg cartons. Sculptor Stuart Murdoch's carton-made mockup of a Challenger II vehicle was built to launch a national egg-and-spoon race organized by Eggs for Soldiers, a charity that raises money for injured soldiers. MWN

60 seconds

All those egg boxes. You must have made many omelettes.

Actually, the egg boxes arrived empty! We were sent over 8,000 egg boxes in the end. There were moments when we didn't want to see another egg box again.

How do egg boxes compare to real steel?

I was very surprised how sturdy they were. It wasn't a problem for me to stand on the structure. Its strength must be due to his conical shape inside.

What was the most difficult thing about making this tank?

Getting it through the door at London's Imperial War Museum. The door was too small, so we had to break it up into separate sections to get it in.

Will it stay there forever?

No. It's going outside on public display on March 4 for one day. After that, I have no idea what will happen to it. My dream is to see it retired at the Tank Museum in Dorset, southwest England.

What other curiosities have you made?

The world's largest cork — two metres high, 1.3 metres in diameter. Three tonnes of ground cork was sent from Portugal. MWN

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2 scene

Brown

Country singer Miranda Lambert doesn't get why controversial R&B star Chris Brown was allowed to perform twice at the Grammys on Sunday. She tweeted on Monday: "He beat on a girl...not cool that we act like that didn't happen."
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cinephiles celebrate attention to film preservation in 'The Artist' and 'Hugo'

Tapping into imagination

Rag and Bone Puppet Theatre encourages kids and families to look at things in a new way

BACKSTAGE PASS

JEN TRAPLIN
METRO OTTAWA

Kathy MacLellan and John Nolan created the Rag and Bone Puppet Theatre in 1978 as a way to continue their acting careers while exploring their desire to do something a bit different.

"John and I had both taken theatre at university and acted in several plays but we felt that we wanted to be more involved in creating the show rather than just being an actor," explains MacLellan.

Aside from writing and producing the seven shows in the theatre's repertoire, the pair also creates every puppet themselves. Nolan carves the heads out of wood or paper mache and MacLellan sews the costumes.

They employ a style of puppetry known as "open manipulation" — a technique MacLellan says was adopted partly because she and Nolan were actors before they were puppeteers, so they understand what it's like to connect with an audience.

In every performance, she and Nolan are both in plain view of the audience, appearing on stage along with the puppets and musician, Russell Levia.

"The puppeteers are kind of part of the story; they're sometimes storytellers or actors," she explains.

MacLellan hopes, if anything, the Rag and Bone Puppet Theatre encourages kids and their parents to tap into their imagination and look at things in a new way while also bringing them together through a unique and fun experience.

"It's a great opportunity for families," she boasts.

HANDOUT

▶ Kathy MacLellan (left) with John Nolan and musician Russell Levia.

Details

When is the show?

Event: Don't miss the Rag and Bone Puppet Theatre's performance of The Flying Canoe, a fun show celebrating Canada's first Francophones, at the Shenkman Arts Centre at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday. There is also a special show at 1:30 pm. on Family Day on Monday. Tickets are $10 each or four for $32 through ragandbone.ca

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On being bad

Johnny Whitworth talks about playing the villain and working with Nic Cage in the new Ghost Rider film

NED EHRBAR
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN HOLLYWOOD

When you see Johnny Whitworth, the first thing that may come to mind is Empire Records, in which he starred opposite Liv Tyler as the lovesick A.J. Eerily. The actor has barely aged over the past 17 years, but on screen in Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance, he's almost unrecognizable as Blackout, a villainous light-manipulator who makes trouble for Nicolas Cage's flaming-skulled biker.

What can you tell us about how your character, Blackout, is portrayed in the movie without giving too much away?

He's got some cooler powers than in the comic. [In the comics], he was born basically a mutant, and when he went around everything turned black, and then he kind of identified with vampires and had these prosthetic fangs put in and claws, and then he was kind of an assassin kind of guy. In our thing, he actually can control what's going on with the light. It's much cooler. And he has powers that give him ... a unique quality and make him ... a good villain for the Ghost Rider.

Did you see the first Ghost Rider film?

I did... I've got to be careful how I use my words. I saw the first one. I think I was there opening day. I go to see all of them. I'm a total geek like that.

As a geek, were you a fan of the comics?

Yeah. I mean, he was definitely the coolest-looking hero, but I never followed that particular comic too much. My little brother did, and that was my introduction to it when we were younger.

How is it taking on a villain role?

It's fun. It's challenging just for the aesthetic reasons, and it's fun because villains are fun. Bad guys are more interesting, you know? You have no limitations, really.

And you go up against the Ghost Rider himself, Nicolas Cage. How was that?

HANDOUT

▶ Johnny Whitworth is barely recognizable as Blackout in Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance.

It's a pleasure to work with Nic. There's not one particular thing I can elaborate on, you know? I think Nic's a great guy and an amazing craftsman. I dig his work. It's inspiring. What was cool was that I didn't understand anything that was going on in Romania, but we could be in a cab or a restaurant or whatever and we'd hear their language and then, "Nicolas Cage." The only thing I would understand was "Nicolas Cage" and then "ciorbă," which is soup.

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Whitney Houston fans without a place to mourn

Houston's family asks for privacy, fans denied public memorial — for now

In Whitney Houston's hometown, her family plans a private church service, with no public memorial set. In Los Angeles, where she died, there's not even a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame for fans to pile flowers. So for the legion of music lovers mourning a global superstar, where do broken hearts go?

Fans who have gathered outside the church where Houston will be eulogized Saturday at an invitation-only service — and outside the funeral home where her body now rests — say they understand why the family wants to keep the world out the best they can.

But they also yearned for the chance to fully share in the grief and the remembrance of a native daughter who made it big and made them proud.

Samuel Turner Jackson, of Newark, said he was looking forward to heading down to "The Rock," as the Prudential Center is known. Before, that is, the funeral home announced Tuesday that no public service would be held at the 18,000-seat arena, an option that had been discussed.

The arena, home to the NHL's New Jersey Devils, displayed an image of Houston on a screen outside Tuesday.

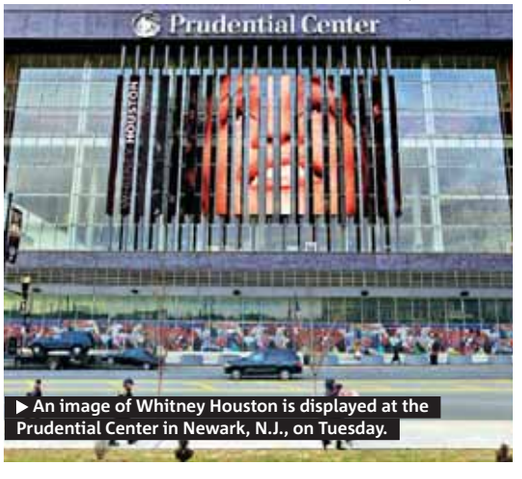
"We don't know what the circumstances are, but we're sure that the family did want to share something with the community that she gave so much to," Jackson said. "But they have their reasons, and we're going to do the best we can to pay our respects and to mourn her."

The family said Tuesday it had no plans right now for a public memorial. Still, fans in this downtrodden city held out hope.

"Maybe at some point down the road, they might do something," said B.J. Frazier, of East Orange. "It's like they're saying today, they shared her for a long time and they just want her to themselves for now."

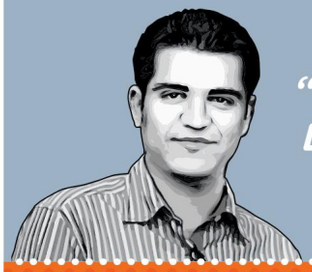
Houston, 48, died Saturday at a hotel in Beverly Hills, Calif., just hours before she was scheduled to perform at producer Clive Davis' pre-Grammy Awards bash. Officials say she was underwater and apparently unconscious when she was pulled from a bathtub.

MEL EVANS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶ An image of Whitney Houston is displayed at the Prudential Center in Newark, N.J., on Tuesday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Will Bobby attend Whitney's funeral?

THE WORD

DOROTHY ROBINSON
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

Whitney Houston's funeral will be held on Saturday at her childhood church, the New Hope Baptist Church in Newark, the church pastor said Tuesday night.

The invitation-only funeral will probably be attended by 1,500 or so people, with the public not invited.

But there's one person whose inclusion on the invite list is still up in the air: Houston's ex-husband, Bobby Brown.

Tmz.com reports that the singer is "extremely disappointed" after hearing that several members of Houston's family do not want him to attend Saturday's service.

Apparently, Houston's family isn't "fond of him" (um, understatement of the century, TMZ).

The site reports that Brown wants to go to support Bobbi Kristina, but hasn't "decided on a plan of action yet."

However, we do know Brown will be on the East Coast as he is scheduled to perform with his group New Edition on Saturday at the Mohegan Sun Arena. The Sun's publicist sent out a release yesterday saying that, as of then, Brown was still scheduled to perform.

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

▶ Bobby Brown and Whitney Houston

Celebrity tweets

@ladygaga

Been working like a crazy bitch all day. Need to smoke a joint or something; or maybe just a good punch in the face. PROPS PROPS PROPS.

@stephenfry

It's 6.50 am in Sydney. Got an hour or so to wait till the flight to Wellington and then I shall finally be in Hibbety-Hobbity land. Hurrah.

@kathygriffin

Should I have worn underwear???

@alecbaldwin

I want a Grammy. I just want it.

Brand 'back in the saddle'

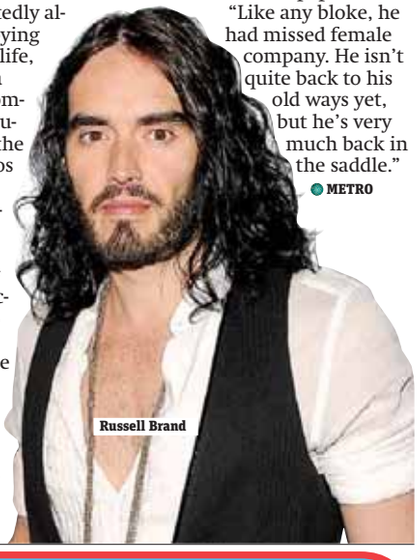
While Katy Perry unveiled a new angry breakup song at the Grammys over the weekend, soon-to-be ex-husband Russell Brand was reportedly already enjoying the single life, taking in a show at comedy and music venue the Largo in Los Angeles with an attractive young woman by his side, according to The Sun.

After the show, the two retired to his home, and Brand drove her home the next morning.

"Russell is a single man again and starting to move on from Katy," a source tells the newspaper.

"Like any bloke, he had missed female company. He isn't quite back to his old ways yet, but he's very much back in the saddle."

METRO



Russell Brand

Winslet doesn't want to see herself in 3D

Kate Winslet is bracing herself for the 3D re-release of Titanic 15 years after it originally came out.

The actress has already seen 17 minutes of footage, and it wasn't necessarily a pleasant experience.

"I was literally like, 'Oh my God, make it stop. Is that me? Oh my God, that's me. Block my ears, somebody. Somebody club out my senses. Make it f--- ing stop,'" Winslet tells USA Today. "I'm sure I wasn't really a very good actress. Seriously, we are talking about something that happened 15 years ago. It is a very long time ago."

Don't worry, Kate. We have a feeling everyone in the audience will have the exact same reaction.

METRO

▶ Kate Winslet

Brown brushes off his haters

Good work, America. Chris Brown is taking all of the negative attention people have showered on him since Sunday's Grammy Awards to heart and is now on a Twitter rampage about it. He tweeted last night: "HATE ALL U WANT BECUZ I GOT A GRAMMY Now! That's the ultimate F-CK OFF!" You know who else got a Grammy? Milli Vanilli. So don't put yourself in such high esteem there, buddy. METRO

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METRO

SKINCEUTICALS BLEMISH + AGE DEFENSE

Student designers from Montreal, Toronto and Halifax winners in Telio contest

- New York's biannual fashion week strikes a final pose today
- Check out five fabulous shows that had us anxious for next fall to arrive

New York runway roundup

KENYA HUNT & TINA CHADHA
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON

GETTY IMAGES

DONNA KARAN COLLECTION

Karan opened with her Casual Luxe collection, which, according to the press notes, was "tailored for the streets of New York" yet on the runway appeared to stem from Balmoral Scotland. These were heavily-layered cold-weather looks with cosy, chunky shearling outerwear: oversized tartan blanket knits and sweeping kilts. It was a strong, covetable collection.

GETTY IMAGES

JASON WU

For Wu, the process of transforming his soft and über-feminine muse into a proper badass force to be reckoned with meant going back to his Chinese roots, and exploring images of the country throughout history from the Qing dynasty to the Mao jacket. That translated into a series of beautifully-executed military coats and jackets loaded with rich Far East details and innovative construction.

GETTY IMAGES

RAG & BONE

As temperatures in New York dropped, Marcus Wainwright and David Neville's dense layering didn't seem like a bad idea. Who wouldn't want a chic and cosy blanket coat to toss over a trouser suit like this strong opening look? The only problem is that heavy layering can only go so far before it adds awkward lumps. Look for their perfectly cool separates and coats in stores, but maybe play with layers before imitating this runway styling.

GETTY IMAGES

MARC JACOBS

Marc Jacobs, New York's most prominent and influential architect of trends, showed a directional collection of multi-layered ensembles that made subtle nods to the Queen's land. From the first look out — a giant, furry Stephen Jones' hat and piled-on outfit that included a cape worn over a voluminous coat on top of a slick, tiled, opalescent, dress over cropped trousers and pilgrim shoes — the show had an air of madcap sobriety to it.

GETTY IMAGES

THAKOON

There was a polished sophistication to Thakoon Panichgul's clothes, best exemplified in the dresses and ruffled coats shift. But there were twists: a coat-dress pinched at the waist seemed prim until the model turned the corner, where sexy black leather cut-outs in the back were revealed. The designer then kicked the feminine factor into high gear with sweet peacock feather embroidery and a palette of bright fuchsia and cranberry.

Jeanne Space

In this hectic modern world, Twitter has become a cool and succinct way of communicating. It allows me to be accessible, instantly speak my mind, and connects me with all kinds of people. Whether it's a fashion question or you just want to comment on life's bigger picture, I'd love to hear from you.

@Jeanne_Beker:

NYC here I come! And surprise - the lovely + talented @Joey-Oneil is coming along with me. Hope to grab some mom + daughter time on the job!

▶ Backastage as @CocoRocha gets her Geisha-style make-up applied by MAC's Kabuki for Zac Posen.

▶ J. Crew rocks! Lots of delightful pieces to mix + match...

▶ Betsey Johnson's better than ever at almost 70!!! Says she may be doing a reality show this fall..

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A bachelor pad on its way up

As our living space gets smaller, we need to get more creative with storage

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▶ Under-counter storage

DESIGN CENTRE

KARL LOHNES
HOME@METRONEWS.CA

With condos getting smaller and our need for consumption ever-growing, it's time to look at displaying our stuff up and off the floors and tables. Freeing up the floor, counters and tabletops is the best way to make your space look more spacious and organized.

Listen up
Investing in wall-hung electronics keeps consoles clutter-free. Just remember to hide the cords. Flat-screen TVs, stereos and speakers are all available to be hung instead of taking up valuable console space. The BeoSound 8 from Bang & Olufsen ($1,200) can be wall-mounted and displays tablets and plays other sound devices.

Entertain it
Creating an entertainment centre doesn't mean adding another cabinet to the living room; simply mount everything under existing cupboards. Under cupboard racks and wall shelving keeps all bar accessories at hand. The 6-bottle Wine And Glass Rack from Bed Bath & Beyond ($40) keeps the well-stocked bar in view at all times.

Hang it
Hooks keep everything off the floor. Put them everywhere: behind doors, inside the walls of closets and under the island bar; a great place to hang a purse or shopping bag.

The Flip Coat Rack from UMBRA ($30) has hooks that hinge down when in need and tuck away when not in use. No more sore shoulders on the way to the bathroom at night.

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Dear Charles the butler,
I am facing a really strange problem. My husband wears leather jackets in size XL. However, the jackets bought from Roots, Danier, etc. come with a hanger that seems to be too small for the XL jackets.

They leave at least two inches of shoulder hanging unsupported by the hanger. The jackets are getting out of shape really quickly. What should I do? Please help.
Thank you,
Trish

Dear Trish,
I have a couple of suggestions that should give you some good solutions for this problem.

ISTOCK

▶ Larger-size clothing needs bigger hangers.

Firstly, a strange but good temporary solution would be to cut some paper towel tubes lengthwise and place one on each side of the hanger where the coat hangs, thus elongating the hanger by a few inches to at least give the coat some stability and shape until a proper hanger can be found.

This may be hard to imagine, but the paper towel tube can be adjusted to the length you need and really does work on a short-term basis.

Secondly, look up a larger-size clothing store in your area and see if they will sell you a few oversized hangers that will properly fit the coats.

If that fails, Wm. Prager Ltd., sells hangers to the trade (and my butler school) so they have a very large inventory and are a great Canadian source.

And finally, the Rolls Royce solution is Henry Hanger in New York City. They manufacture any size hanger you could ever want or need and will even put your initials on the hanger should you so choose!

I know this last option is extreme, but I have used them for some of my very fancy clients and they are really good and will solve the problem.

HAVE A QUESTION? SEND A MESSAGE TO ASKCHARLESTHEBUTLER@METRONEWS.CA

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Pull off prints

Forget monastic minimalism — deck your home in zinging prints Don't worry, these designs aren't a throwback to grandparents' decor Modern prints help infuse your home with personality

CONTRIBUTED

"Prints reflect personality," like these....

DIY IDEAS

RICHARD PECKETT
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON

"Prints and patterns have been huge trends for the last few years and shows no sign of slowing down," says Tricia Guild, the founder and creative director of Designers Guild. "They offer a sense of modernity that plain textiles and walls just do not have."

Print wallpaper and upholstery may read like a throwback to a bygone age — I quiver at the thought of my grandparents' upholstery and strangely yellowed, bronze wallpaper. But today's prints are inspiringly vibrant and make for a room that you'd actually want to spend time in. As Guild puts it, "Prints lend themselves to a more eclectic look that reflects one's personality and spirit."

A harmonious clash

Nobody wants to create a home decor that is positively sick-making, so you need to "pick out a colour to link the clash — this way print clashes generally work," says Guild.

"In this blue sitting room, we've used more than eight patterns but the total effect is harmonious and full of character because the colour palette is restricted to a cobalt and white crispness," she says.

Go easy on...

It's important to reel in your creative wild side, especially when it comes to decorating with animal prints and focus walls. Guild says: "Don't mix too many animal prints together and use a plain neutral, such as black, along the edges of curtains, cushions, rugs and lampshades." On focus walls, she adds, "I think pattern all over the room is more up-to-date — the feature wall feels a bit passé in my view."

Prints to scale

You don't have to live in a sprawling urban palace to make prints work in your place. If you don't want prints to dominate, Guild suggests tempering the look by "choosing a wallpaper that is not too strong."

That means avoiding anything overtly in-your-face, and if you're sprucing up a smaller space, it'll be worth bearing this in mind: "Smaller-scale prints are best in tighter rooms, or just add accent print pieces like cushions or throws," says Guild. "However, there are no real rules and sometimes a large-scale pattern can look amazing."

CONTRIBUTED

Pick a colour to link print clashes.

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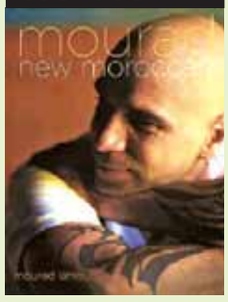
Weekly Cookbook



Infusing the robust spices and flavours of Morocco

- Turkey cutlets and vegetables are imbued with the tastes of the northern African country
- This warming winter dish is best served over steaming Israeli or traditional couscous

After spending the last decade and a half at his Michelin-starred San Francisco restaurant developing modern Moroccan cuisine, Mourad Lahlou now takes his culinary talents to the pages of his recently-released book New Moroccan.

The book is anything but a dutifully authentic documentation of Moroccan home cooking.

Although the great classics (basteeya, couscous, preserved lemons), are included, they are all adapted to take the idea of Moroccan cooking to a new level.

The 100-plus recipes are lavishly illustrated with food and location photography. Among them are: Lamb Shank with Spiced Prunes and Brown Butter Faro, Dry-Fried Okra with Melted Tomatoes, Chickpea Spread, Grilled Flatbreads and more.

Preparation:

1. Cook couscous according to package directions.
2. In a resealable bag, combine turkey with 2 ml (1/2 tsp) each of the paprika, cumin, salt and pepper and half of the oil. Marinate for at least 30 minutes and up to 1 day.
3. In a large, non-stick skillet, heat remaining oil over medium-high heat. Brown turkey on both sides and transfer to a plate (it will not be cooked through).
4. Cook onion until tender, about 5 minutes. Stir in carrots, fennel and remaining paprika, cumin, salt and pepper and cook for 3 minutes. Sprinkle with apricots and olives, pour in orange juice and broth, scraping up any brown bits from the bottom of the pan. Nestle turkey into vegetables, reduce heat to medium-low to maintain a simmer, cover and cook until turkey is cooked through and vegetables are tender-crisp, about 15 minutes. Sprinkle with parsley and serve over couscous.

Ingredients:

- 250 ml (1 cup) Israeli or traditional couscous
- 5 ml (1 tsp) paprika, divided
- 5 ml (1 tsp) ground cumin, divided
- 5 ml (1 tsp) each sea salt and fresh cracked pepper, divided
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) olive oil, divided
- 4 turkey cutlets
- 1 small onion, peeled and sliced
- 2 carrots, peeled and sliced
- 1/2 fennel bulb, sliced
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) chopped dried apricots
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) pitted olives, halved
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) orange juice
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) turkey or chicken broth
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) fresh chopped parsley

THE CANADIAN PRESS H/O

▶ This recipe serves four.

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SPECIAL INFORMATION FEATURE

SAMANTHA EVERTS/FOR METRO

▶ Chris Sheppard (Kichesippi Beer), left, Jon Bartlett (Kelp Records) and Jarred Thomas-Reynolds (Manx pub) will be on hand for the Winter Warmer this Saturday.

Winter Warmer: A terrific trio

Musicians have a long history of slinging dishes in between tours in this city, but Kelp Records has capitalized on the nectar (beer) that fuels them and paired them with street-food inspired fare for the Winter Warmer event this Saturday.

"Indie music, food and beer are a pretty good three-piece combo," event organizer and Kelp Records owner Jon Bartlett said.

From 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., about 10 restaurants will have a wide variety of small plates paired with local brews including Beau's, Kichesippi, Broadhead, and Mill Street.

Bartlett says that many musicians have begun to crave higher quality food, but in the same grab-and-go style. "When you're on the road all the time you tend to eat out a lot."

Manx chef Jarrah Thomas-Reynolds is ready for that and has prepared a Korean-inspired wrap sandwich for the event. He will be pairing it with Blonde Kichesippi beer that has a big flavour because it cooks down well into the meat.

Based on the boneless short rib we sampled, which was incredibly tender, it won't matter if you have poor-musician taste buds or are a developed foodie to enjoy the pairings.

Gourmet hotdogs will definitely be on the menu from Seed to Sausage producer (possibly blue cheese infused).

Dish will be offering homemade chorizo "pogos" with bacon jam to be enjoyed with a pint of Broadhead.

Entry is $5 and food tickets are separate. Live music will be provided by Kelp's Adam and the Amethysts and Chris Page. Winter Warmer will be held at Dom Polski Hall (379 Waverley St.).

For more, see kelprecords.com.

SAMANTHA EVERTS

An unexpected gem

Mates with Dates is a unique collaboration

Only 1,000 bottles available

JEFF O'REILLY
FOR METRO

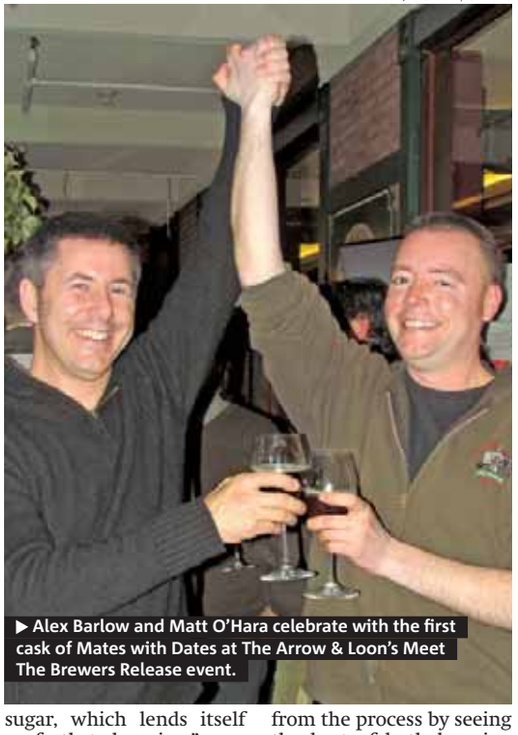
One of the best side-effects of drinking beer that often gets overlooked is the wonderful friendships that can take place while enjoying the beverage, and today's article has plenty on tap.

When Beau's All Natural Brewing's Steve Beauchesne met ALL BEER's Alex Barlow, a British brewer and beer guru, at Mondial in Strasbourg, France, the two went for beers and hit it off immediately. The conversations quickly went from Beauchesne inviting Barlow to speak at last year's Oktoberfest (which he accepted) to the possibility of a brewing collaboration during the visit.

Later, during a San Francisco Beer Week event the two got together with Beau's Head brewer Matthew O'Hara to work out a concept. O'Hara and Barlow immediately looked at something loosely based on a traditional British brown ale, but with the magnitude of this joint effort they wanted to ensure they designed something memorable.

Through a flurry of emails and Skype conversations, Barlow recommended the use of dates — a fruit no one was currently using — but had been used by the ancient Egyptians in their brewing. Barlow explained, "Dates have no fat, no haze and a lot of sugar, which lends itself perfectly to brewing."

JEFF O'REILLY/FOR METRO



▶ Alex Barlow and Matt O'Hara celebrate with the first cask of Mates with Dates at The Arrow & Loon's Meet The Brewers Release event.

The introduction of Belgian yeast and a second fermentation would only enhance the fruity tendencies of many brown ales and the opportunity to bring flavour through the yeast to create something completely unique.

As the evolution of the concept of this beer was a long one, O'Hara adds, "Alex threw down the gauntlet. This upped everyone's game as we had an opportunity to learn, with both taking away stuff from the process by seeing the best of both brewing worlds."

I have to tell you that with all the work that went into this beer — from Strasbourg to San Francisco, Sheffield, England, to Vankleek Hill, it was a huge privilege for me to sit down with O'Hara and Beauchesne as Barlow finally got to enjoy sips of the first cask of Mates with Dates at the recent "Meet The Brewers" event at the Arrow & The Loon. The amount of mutual respect and friendship was heartwarming and a real treat to behold.

Mates with Dates (7.7 per cent alcohol by volume) is a lively brew that literally jumps from the bottle, pouring a deep, hazy orange-hued ice tea colour with a frothy white head that settles quickly. The nose is quirky and complex as there is a lot going on here.

Every sip seems to bring out something new — the full fruitiness of the dates, the subtle bite of the yeast, some woody earthy notes, malty, toffee richness and sugar cane — full bodied and flavourful with a surprisingly dry finish … it really is incomparable.

Mates with Dates is available at Beau's Vankleek Hill brewery or you can "Buy Your Beau's Online" at beaus.ca.

With only 1,000 600 ml bottles available for $16 each, I recommend you act quickly or you will be out of luck mate.

Release party

Beau's Winterbrewed Release Party (this Saturday from 8-10 p.m. at Bridgehead Coffee, 96 Sparks St.) features the return of Winterbrewed,a coffee-beer collaboration between Bridgehead Coffee and Beau's All Natural. The event will also showcase their new release Collabrrrewator Coffee Doppelbock. Proceeds go to the Shepherds of Good Hope.

Travel the world to taste a wide range of wines

SUSAN DESJARDINS
FOR METRO

This week in LCBO Vintages, you can travel the world with a bottle of customer favourite wines.

When I tasted the wide range of wines, these are the ones that I would select with $100 to spend. With a bit more pocket money, I would splurge on a bottle of Ontario's 13th Street Riesling, Thomas Bachelder Chardonnay or Champy Burgundy from France.

Louis Bouillot 'Perle d'Ivoire' Brut Blanc de Blanc, France
(LCBO #48801, $18.95)
▶ Creamy mousse, vibrant clean texture, lasting finish. Sip and enjoy!

Mount Riley Sauvignon Blanc 2011, New Zealand
(LCBO #981670, $15.95)
▶ A classic selection — harmonious, dry, juicy and tangy on the finish.

IF I HAD $100 ... TO SPEND AT VINTAGES

Château Saint-Roch Chimeres 2009, France,
(LCBO #119354, $18.95)
▶ A medium-full-bodied complex French blend with great depth of dark fruit.

Masi Brolo Campofiorin 2007, Italy
(LCBO #976092, $24.95)
▶ Concentrated and aromatic, offering a velvety texture, substantial fruit and great structure.

Bodegas Lan Crianza 2007, Spain
(LCBO #166538, $15.95)
▶ Classic Tempranillo offering layered aromas, flavours and a full, fruity finish.

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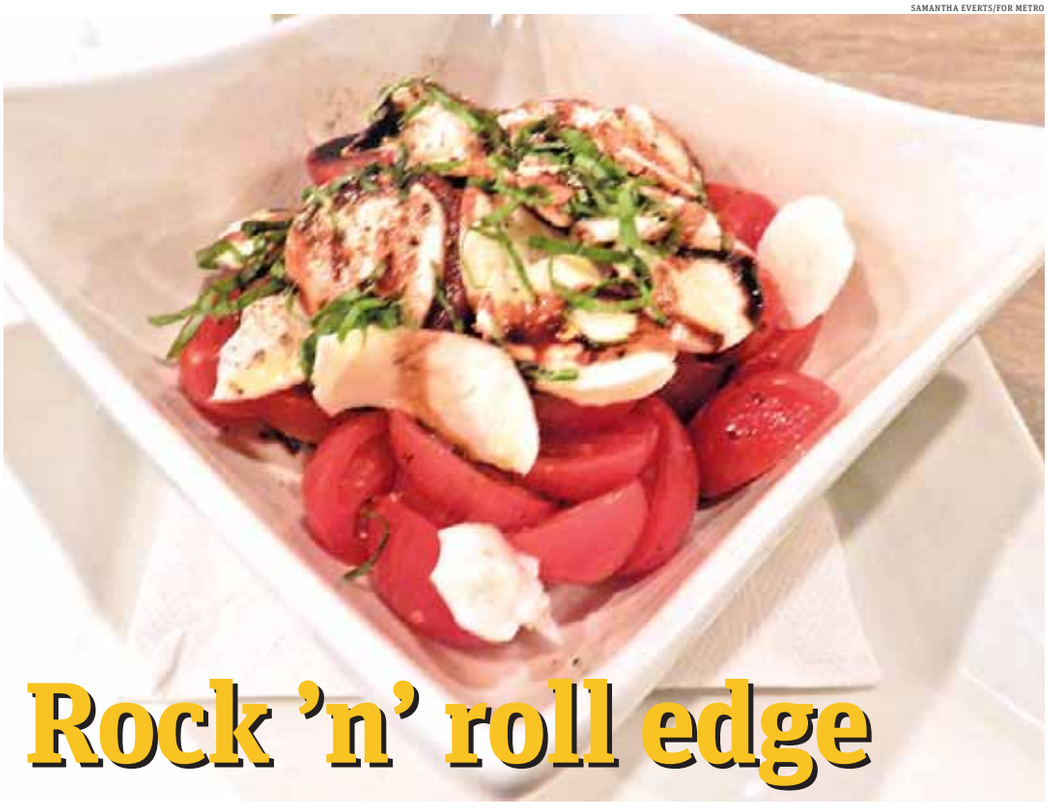
SAMANTHA EVERTS/FOR METRO



Rock 'n' roll edge

10Fourteen serves up tapas in a laid-back and fun atmosphere

SAMANTHA EVERTS
FOR METRO

10Fourteen is a tapas and wine bar with a rock 'n' roll edge that has just opened along the Hintonburg restaurant strip. But what sets it apart?

"We play Bon Jovi, sometimes," laughs executive chef James Foley. Indeed, it's this laid back and playful atmosphere people will notice as soon as they enter. Vintage mirrors mixed in with iconic pop art adorn the walls under sleek booths, candle-lit tables and a proudly donned Wellington West street sign.

But it's also playful when a martini glass filled with spiced popcorn with truffle oil is presented. "Everyone loves popcorn," says co-owner Rani Aramouni. "It really goes with our fun style.

"The name is just 10Fourteen," though, says Aramouni. "I grew up in Toronto eating tapas-style meals and there were a few places that made me want to open my own like this."

You won't find a menu beyond the large blackboards because the it changes daily. That can include goat-cheese stuffed beef tenderloin with siracha dijonaise to fresh caprese salad. Executive chef James Foley is being challenged daily. "I can't wait to shop at the Parkdale Market in the spring."

It took a few years to find the right location with partner Rod Castro. Previously, the building had been a politician's headquarters. The kitchen exposed at the end of the bar is just an example of how much more relaxed the atmosphere is now.

"I like for people to see what I'm doing," says Foley, who is excited to experiment with local products like game meats.

Alongside charcuterie and traditional cheese plates, patrons can select from an impressive wine list and craft beer choices.

"The most popular is the Slop and Tickle cocktail," says Aramouni.

After a successful wine tasting night in January, 10Fourteen is hoping to make it a monthly event.

10Fourteen is located at 1014 Welllington St. For more information, see 10fourteenbar.com.

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SEASONAL SIPS

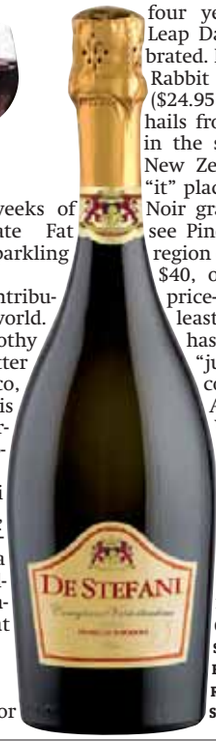
Mardi Gras, Feb. 21:
Before those long weeks of deprivation, celebrate Fat Tuesday with a fun sparkling wine.

Italy makes two contributions to the bubbly world.

The sweet and frothy Asti Spumante is better known, but Prosecco, from northeast Italy is a drier, delicious alternative that most people prefer.

Try the De Stefani Prosecco Brut ($17.95, +268540) for an off-dry sparkler with a hint of spice to welcome the Easter season. Available at Vintages Saturday.

Leap Day, Feb. 29:
We haven't seen it for four years, so don't let Leap Day pass by un-celebrated. Make the leap with Rabbit Ranch Pinot Noir ($24.95 +55228). The wine hails from Central Otago in the southern part of New Zealand, the new "it" place for the Pinot Noir grape. We often see Pinots from this region coming in at $40, or more, so, price-wise at least, this one has a definite "jump" on the competition. Available at Vintages Saturday.



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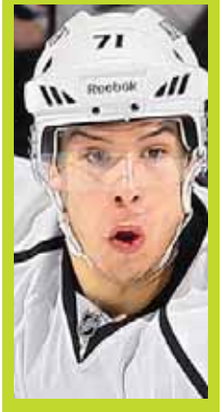

"I've had to earn lots of stuff, nothing's been given to me, but I always had a self belief in myself that one day I'd play in the NHL."

JORDAN NOLAN, WHO SCORED HIS FIRST NHL GOAL LAST WEEKEND IN HIS SECOND GAME WITH THE KINGS, WHO PICKED HIM IN THE SEVENTH ROUND OF THE 2009 DRAFT. NOLAN'S FATHER, TED, PLAYED 78 GAMES IN THE NHL AND WENT ON TO WIN THE JACK ADAMS AWARD AS COACH OF THE YEAR WITH THE BUFFALO SABRES.

Scan code for more sports news.

ALAN DIAZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Ottawa's Milan Michalek, left, congratulates Bobby Butler on his goal against Panthers goalie Scott Clemmensen on Wednesday night in Sunrise, Fla.

Sens' scoring touch returns in Florida

A night after shutting out Lightning, Ottawa pumps six past Panthers

Craig Anderson made 42 saves, six Ottawa players scored, and the Senators routed the Panthers 6-2 on Wednesday night for their ninth straight win against Florida.

Jim O'Brien notched his first career goal, Milan Michalek moved into a tie for the team lead with his 25th of the season, and Kaspars Daugavins, Bobby Butler, Daniel Alfredsson and Filip Kuba also scored for the Senators.

Ottawa has beaten the Panthers five straight times in Florida and 17 of 20 on the road.

Shawn Matthias and Sean Bergenheim scored for the Panthers. Scott Clemmensen allowed four goals on 16 shots before being replaced by Jose Theodore with 5:54 left in the second period. Theodore, who hadn't played since Jan. 20, stopped 13 of 15 shots.

SENATORS	PANTHERS
6	2

Ottawa took a 2-1 lead in the second. Brian Lee sent a pass from above the right circle to Daugavins, who tipped the puck in from in front at 5:18.

Ottawa stretched its lead to 3-1 a couple minutes later. Michalek passed from the top of the left circle to Butler, who deflected the puck past Clemmensen's glove side at 7:24.

Alfredsson's short-handed goal at 14:06 of the second made it 4-1. The Panthers turned the puck over in the neutral zone, and Alfredsson skated in on Clemmensen and backhanded the puck over his pad. Clemmensen was then replaced by Theodore.

The Senators kept pouring it on, and Michalek pushed the lead to four goals. Bergenheim's power-play goal later in the third closed the gap to 5-2.

Kuba added a power-play goal for Ottawa late in the period.

Ottawa went ahead 1-0 on O'Brien's goal. O'Brien, recalled by Ottawa on Feb. 3, took control of the puck behind the net and poked it in on a wraparound at 5:35 on the first.

The Panthers tied it at 1-1 when Matthias sent a wrist shot from the left circle over Anderson's shoulder at 11:47.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lions hang on to key players

Wally Buono wasted little time Wednesday retaining two key members of his Grey Cup-winning team.

The B.C. Lions GM highlighted the opening day of CFL free agency by agreeing to terms with veteran defensive backs Dante Marsh and Ryan Phillips. Buono reached a deal with Marsh just before he was scheduled to become a free agent before coming to terms with Phillips roughly two hours after he entered free agency.

CFL free agency kicked off at noon on Wednesday but the top two available players — slotback Andy Fantuz and offensive lineman Brendon LaBatte — remained unsigned Wednesday evening.

However, they were certainly generating a lot of interest.

The Hamilton Tiger-Cats and Saskatchewan Roughriders were said to be in the running for Fantuz, the six-foot-four, 220-pound slotback who was the CFL's outstanding Canadian in 2010. Fantuz missed the first half of last season attending the Chicago Bears camp before suffering an ankle injury after returning to Regina.

Edmonton and Saskatchewan were reportedly both working hard to sign LaBatte. The six-foot-four, 323-pound native of Weyburn, Sask., has spent his entire CFL career with Winnipeg.

LaBatte was a CFL all-star in 2011 and helped Winnipeg reach the Grey Cup. The 25-year-old can play guard or centre although his preference is guard. THE CANADIAN PRESS

$175K

Andy Fantuz is expected to fetch between $175,000 and $200,000 on the open market, which could be too rich for the Argos, who will have to pay quarterback Ricky Ray around $400,000 this season.

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-NY Rangers	55	37	13	1	4	156	110	79	18-6-0-2	19-7-1-2	8-1-0-1	W4
d-Boston	54	34	18	1	1	184	123	70	18-10-1-1	16-8-0-0	4-5-1-0	L1
d-Florida	55	27	17	5	6	141	152	65	14-5-1-6	13-12-4-0	6-3-0-1	W3
Philadelphia	56	31	18	2	5	182	169	69	13-9-1-4	18-9-1-1	3-4-0-3	L3
Pittsburgh	57	32	20	2	3	176	150	69	17-8-2-0	15-12-0-3	7-2-0-1	W2
New Jersey	56	32	20	1	3	158	156	68	15-10-0-3	17-10-1-0	6-2-0-2	W1
Ottawa	59	29	22	6	2	173	181	66	15-11-2-1	14-11-4-1	2-6-2-0	W1
Toronto	57	28	23	3	3	172	171	62	16-9-2-2	12-14-1-1	5-4-0-1	L4
Washington	56	28	23	2	3	156	160	61	19-8-0-2	9-15-2-1	3-4-2-1	L3
Winnipeg	58	26	26	3	3	140	164	58	16-9-0-2	10-17-3-1	4-6-0-0	L2
NY Islanders	56	24	24	5	3	134	160	56	12-13-5-0	12-11-1-2	5-3-1-1	W1
Montreal	57	23	25	2	7	152	154	55	11-12-2-5	12-13-0-2	6-4-0-0	L1
Tampa Bay	56	24	26	3	3	155	189	54	15-9-1-1	9-17-2-2	5-3-2-0	L2
Buffalo	56	24	26	3	3	137	162	54	13-11-3-3	11-15-0-0	5-4-0-1	L2
Carolina	57	21	25	7	4	147	175	53	14-12-0-3	7-13-7-1	5-1-3-1	W1

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Detroit	58	39	17	1	1	185	136	80	24-2-1-0	15-15-0-1	7-2-0-1	W4
d-Vancouver	56	35	15	0	6	180	139	76	16-6-0-4	19-9-0-2	7-0-0-3	W1
d-San Jose	54	31	17	3	3	158	130	68	18-9-2-0	13-8-1-3	5-4-0-1	W1
St. Louis	56	34	15	1	6	140	113	75	24-3-1-3	10-12-0-3	6-3-0-1	L1
Nashville	57	33	18	3	3	161	150	72	18-7-2-2	15-11-1-1	6-2-0-2	W1
Chicago	57	29	21	4	3	176	174	65	19-6-1-3	10-15-3-0	1-8-1-0	L9
Los Angeles	57	27	19	5	6	124	124	65	15-11-0-4	12-8-5-2	4-4-1-1	W1
Phoenix	57	27	21	3	6	149	146	63	14-10-2-2	13-11-1-4	6-2-0-2	L1
Calgary	57	27	22	4	4	139	152	62	16-8-1-1	11-14-3-3	6-2-1-1	W2
Colorado	57	28	25	3	1	146	159	60	16-13-0-1	12-12-3-0	4-4-1-1	L1
Dallas	56	28	25	0	3	146	160	59	15-11-0-2	13-14-0-1	4-5-0-1	L3
Minnesota	56	25	23	2	6	126	146	58	13-10-1-2	12-13-1-4	3-6-0-1	L5
Anaheim	57	24	24	4	5	148	165	57	15-13-2-0	9-11-2-5	7-1-1-1	W3
Edmonton	55	22	28	1	4	147	165	49	15-8-1-2	7-20-0-2	5-4-0-1	W1
Columbus	57	17	34	1	5	133	186	40	10-15-1-2	7-19-0-3	4-6-0-0	W1

d — division leaders ranked 1-2-3 regardless of points; a team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OTL (overtime loss) or SL (shootout loss) column.

Last night's results
Anaheim 2 Pittsburgh 1
Boston at Montreal
Ottawa at Florida
Toronto at Edmonton
Colorado at Vancouver

Tuesday's results
Calgary 5 Toronto 1
Ottawa 4 Tampa Bay 0
N.Y. Islanders 3 Winnipeg 1
Anaheim 2 Minnesota 1
Columbus 2 St. Louis 1
Detroit 3 Dallas 1
Nashville 3 Chicago 2
New Jersey 4 Buffalo 1
N.Y. Rangers 3 Boston 0

Tonight's games — All Times Eastern
Chicago at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m.
Buffalo at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
San Jose at Tampa Bay, 7:30 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at St. Louis, 8 p.m.
Winnipeg at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Calgary at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Phoenix at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.

Tomorrow's games
Anaheim at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
San Jose at Carolina, 7 p.m.
Montreal at Buffalo, 7:30 p.m.
Washington at Florida, 7:30 p.m.
Nashville at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Boston at Winnipeg, 8:30 p.m.
Colorado at Edmonton, 9:30 p.m.

LATE TUESDAY

SENATORS 4, LIGHTNING 0

First Period
1. Ottawa, Karlsson 10 (Spezza, Butler) 1:04
Penalties — Stamkos TB (tripping) 1:24, Spezza Ott (tripping) 3:34, Butler Ott (goaltender interference) 9:04.
Second Period
2. Ottawa, Spezza 23 (Kuba, Karlsson) 16:32 (pp)
Penalty — Kubina TB (interference) 15:30.
Third Period
3. Ottawa, Spezza 24 (Butler, Michalek) 12:37
4. Ottawa, Spezza 25 (Gonchar) 18:58 (en)
Missed penalty shot — Turris Ott, 11:36.
Penalties — None.
Shots on goal by

Ottawa	7	11	9	—27
Tampa Bay	10	11	7	—28

Goal — Ottawa: Anderson (W,26-19-6); Tampa Bay: Garon (L,17-15-4). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Ottawa: 1-2; Tampa Bay: 0-2.
Attendance — 17,488 (19,204) at Tampa, Fla.

ISLANDERS 3, JETS 1

First Period
1. Winnipeg, Thorburn 3 (Slater, Glass) 17:50
Penalties — None.
Second Period
2. N.Y. Islanders, Moulson 25 (Tavares) 3:55 (pp)
Penalties — Wheeler Wpg (tripping) 3:32, Grabner NYI (slashing), Bogosian Wpg (cross-checking) 8:26, Parenteau NYI (diving), Antropov Wpg (interference) 14:17, Tavares NYI (delay of game) 18:03.
Third Period
3. N.Y. Islanders, Parenteau 12 (Jurcina, Rolston) 1:36
4. N.Y. Islanders, Martin 7 (Parenteau) 19:07 (en)
Penalties — Rolston NYI (tripping) 5:50, Parenteau NYI (cross-checking) 11:26.
Shots on goal by

N.Y. Islanders	10	7	8	—25
Winnipeg	16	10	12	—38

Goal — N.Y. Islanders: Nabokov (W,14-14-0); Winnipeg: Pavelec (L,20-20-6). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — N.Y. Islanders: 1-1; Winnipeg: 0-3.
Attendance — 15,004 (15,004) at Winnipeg.

FLAMES 5, MAPLE LEAFS 1

First Period
1. Calgary, Tanguay 7 (Jokinen, Brodie) 4:43
2. Calgary, Jokinen 18 (Tanguay, Iginla) 8:13
3. Toronto, Bozak 13 (Lupul, Kessel) 16:42
Penalty — Komisarek Cal (interference) 12:47.
Second Period
4. Calgary, Byron 3, 9:15 (penalty shot)
Penalties — Bouma Cal (tripping) 12:21, Cammalleri Cal (tripping) 17:44.
Third Period
5. Calgary, Comeau 4 (Cammalleri, Kostopoulos) 15:09
6. Calgary, Iginla 22 (Tanguay) 17:44
Penalties — Butler Cal (holding) 10:34, MacArthur Tor (tripping) 18:23.
Shots on goal by

Toronto	17	13	12	—42
Calgary	12	7	15	—34

Goal — Toronto: Gustavsson (L,16-12-1); Calgary: Kiprusoff (W,26-17-4). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Toronto: 0-4; Calgary: 0-2.
Attendance — 19,289 (19,289) at Calgary.

SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	PT
Malkin, Pgh	32	37	69
Stamkos, TB	37	25	62
Giroux, Pha	22	40	62
Kessel, Tor	30	31	61
Spezza, Ott	25	35	60
Lupul, Tor	22	37	59
H.Sedin, Vcr	12	46	58
Datsyuk, Det	15	42	57
Kovalchuk, NJ	25	31	56
Neal, Pgh	29	26	55
D.Sedin, Vcr	24	31	55
Tavares, NYI	22	33	55
Eberle, Edm	24	30	54
Hossa, Chi	21	33	54
Elias, NJ	19	35	54
Pominville, Buf	21	32	53
Toews, Chi	27	25	52
Karlsson, Ott	10	42	52
Selanne, Ana	18	33	51
Ra.Whitney, Phx	16	35	51
Parenteau, NYI	12	39	51
Hartnell, Pha	26	24	50
Kopitar, LA	17	33	50
St. Louis, TB	16	34	50

Not including last night's games

BASKETBALL

NBL

Last night's result
Saint John at Oshawa

Tuesday's result
Moncton 103 Summerside 97

Tonight's games — All Times Eastern
Moncton at Summerside, 7 p.m.
Saint John at London, 7 p.m.

LACROSSE

NLL

WEEK SEVEN
Saturday's games — All Times Eastern
Philadelphia at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Washington at Rochester, 7:30 p.m.
Colorado at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Edmonton at Calgary, 9 p.m.

TENNIS

ATP ABN AMRO WORLD TOURNAMENT

At Rotterdam, Netherlands
Singles — First Round
Roger Federer (1), Switzerland, def. Nicolas Mahut, France, 6-4, 6-4.
Tomas Berdych (2), Czech Republic, def. Lukas Rosol, Czech Republic, 6-4, 6-2.
Juan Martin del Potro (3), Argentina, def. Micahel Llodra, France, 6-4, 6-7 (3), 6-4.
Marcos Baghdatis, Cyprus, def. Matthias Bachinger, Germany, 7-6 (2), 6-2.
Alex Bogomolov, Jr., Russia, def. Sergiy Stakhovsky, Ukraine, 6-3, 0-1 (retired).
Karol Beck, Slovakia, def. Philipp Petzschner, Germany, 7-6 (6), 6-3.
Second Round
Jarkko Nieminen, Finland, def. Lukasz Kubot, Poland, 6-3, 5-7, 7-6 (2).
Nikolay Davydenko, Russia, def. Paul-Henri Mathieu, France, 6-4, 6-7 (7), 6-1.
Doubles — First Round
Marcel Granollers and Marc Lopez, Spain, def. Max Mirnyi, Belarus, and **Daniel Nestor (1), Toronto**, 7-6 (5), 7-5.
Robert Lindstedt, Sweden, and Horia Tecau (3), Romania, def. Oliver Marach and Alexander Peya, Austria, 6-1, 7-5.

WTA COPA BBVA COLSANITAS

At Bogota, Colombia
Singles — First Round
Marina Erakovic (1), New Zealand, def. Stefanie Voegele, Switzerland, 6-3, 6-4.
Paula Ormaechea, Argentina, def. Jelena Dokic (4), Australia, 4-6, 6-3, 6-4.
Second Round
Timea Babos, Hungary, def. Romina Oprandi (3), Switzerland, 7-6 (5), 6-4.
Mariana Duque-Marino, Colombia, def. Lourdes Dominguez Lino (7), Spain, 4-6, 6-2, 7-5.
Lara Arruabarrena-Vecino, Spain, def. Eva Birnerova, Czech Republic, 6-4, 6-0.
Yaroslava Shvedova, Kazakhstan, def. Valeria Savinykh, Russia, 6-2, 6-2.
Doubles — First Round
Eva Birnerova, Czech Republic, and Alexandra Panova (1), Russia, def. Karen Castiblanco, Colombia, and Paula Ormaechea, Argentina, 6-2, 6-0.
Timea Babos, Hungary, and Valeria Savinykh, Russia, def. Maria Abramovic, Croatia, and **Marie-Eve Pelletier (4), Repentigny, Que.**, 1-6, 6-3, 10-3 (tiebreak).

WTA QATAR TOTAL OPEN

At Doha, Qatar
Singles — Second Round
Victoria Azarenka (1), Belarus, def. Mona Barthel, Germany, 6-1, 6-0.
Lucie Safarova, Czech Republic, def. Caroline Wozniacki (2), Denmark, 4-6, 6-4, 7-6 (3).
Sam Stosur (3), Australia, def. Sorana Cirstea, Romania, 6-4, 7-6 (5).
Agnieszka Radwanska (4), Poland, def. Anne Keothavong, Britain, 6-1, 6-2.
Marion Bartoli (5), France, def. Anabel Medina Garrigues, Spain, 6-2, 6-0.
Monica Niculescu, Romania, def. Vera Zvonareva (6), Russia, 7-5, 3-2 (retired).
Yanina Wickmayer, Belgium, def. Francesca Schiavone (7), Italy, 7-6 (4), 6-4.
Shahar Peer, Israel, def. Jelena Jankovic (8), Serbia, 7-6 (3), 6-2.
Christina McHale, U.S., def. Peng Shuai (12), China, 5-7, 6-3, 6-2.
Petra Cetkovska, Czech Republic, def. Ana Ivanovic (13), Serbia, 6-4, 6-4.
Svetlana Kuznetsova (14), Russia, def. Maria Kirilenko, Russia, 6-4, 6-4.
Varvara Lepchenko, U.S., def. Julia Goerges (16), Germany, 7-6 (4), 7-6 (5).

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Chicago	24	7	.774	—
d-Miami	23	7	.767	½
d-Philadelphia	20	10	.667	3½
Orlando	19	11	.633	4½
Atlanta	18	11	.621	5
Indiana	17	11	.607	5½
Boston	15	12	.556	7
New York	14	15	.483	9
Milwaukee	12	16	.429	10½
Cleveland	10	16	.385	11½
Toronto	9	22	.290	15
New Jersey	8	21	.276	15
Detroit	8	22	.267	15½
Washington	7	22	.241	16
Charlotte	3	25	.107	19½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Oklahoma City	22	6	.786	—
d-San Antonio	21	9	.700	2
d-L.A. Clippers	17	9	.654	4
Dallas	18	11	.621	4½
L.A. Lakers	17	12	.586	5½
Denver	17	12	.586	5½
Houston	16	13	.552	6½
Portland	15	14	.517	7½
Memphis	15	14	.517	7½
Utah	14	14	.500	8
Minnesota	13	16	.448	9½
Golden State	11	14	.440	9½
Phoenix	12	17	.414	10½
Sacramento	10	18	.357	12
New Orleans	5	23	.179	17

d — division leaders ranked in top four positions regardless of record.

Last night's results
San Antonio 113 Toronto 106
Orlando 103 Philadelphia 87
Detroit at Boston
Indiana at Cleveland
Memphis at New Jersey
Sacramento at New York
Oklahoma City at Houston
Charlotte at Minnesota
New Orleans at Milwaukee
Denver at Dallas
Atlanta at Phoenix
Portland at Golden State
Washington at L.A. Clippers

Tuesday's results
New York 90 Toronto 87
Chicago 121 Sacramento 115
Denver 109 Phoenix 92
L.A. Lakers 86 Atlanta 78
Memphis 93 Houston 83
Miami 105 Indiana 90
Oklahoma City 111 Utah 85
San Antonio 99 Detroit 95
Washington 124 Portland 109

Tonight's games — All Times Eastern
New Jersey at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Boston at Chicago, 8 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Portland, 10:30 p.m.

Tomorrow's games
Charlotte at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Milwaukee at Orlando, 7 p.m.
Miami at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
Sacramento at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Houston, 8 p.m.
Golden State at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
Denver at Memphis, 8 p.m.
New Orleans at New York, 8 p.m.
Dallas at Philadelphia, 8 p.m.
Washington at Utah, 9 p.m.
Phoenix at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.

SOCCER

UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

SECOND ROUND

FIRST LEG
(home teams listed first)
Yesterday's results
AC Milan (Italy) 4 Arsenal (England) 0
Zenit St. Petersburg (Russia) 3 Benfica (Portugal) 2
Tuesday's results
Bayer Leverkusen (Germany) 1 Barcelona (Spain) 3
Lyon (France) 1 APOEL Nicosia (Cyprus) 0
Tuesday, Feb. 21
CSKA Moscow (Russia) vs. Real Madrid (Spain), 12 p.m.
Napoli (Italy) vs. Chelsea (England), 2:45 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 22
Basel (Switzerland) vs. Bayern Munich (Germany), 2:45 p.m.
Marseille (France) vs. Inter Milan (Italy), 2:45 p.m.
Second Leg begins on March 6

EUROPA LEAGUE

SECOND ROUND

FIRST LEG
(home teams listed first)
Tuesday's results
Braga (Portugal) 0 Besiktas (Turkey) 2
Rubin Kazan (Russia) 0, Olympiakos (Greece) 1
Today's games — All Times Eastern
Locomotiv Moscow (Russia) vs. Athletic Bilbao (Spain), Noon
AZ Alkmaar (Netherlands) vs. Anderlecht (Belgium), 1 p.m.
Ajax (Netherlands) vs. Manchester United (England), 1 p.m.
Lazio (Italy) vs. Atletico Madrid (Spain), 1 p.m.
Legia Warsaw (Poland) vs. Sporting Lisbon (Portugal), 1 p.m.
Salzburg (Austria) vs. Metalist Kharkiv (Ukraine), 1 p.m.
Viktoria Plzen (Czech Republic) vs. Schalke (Germany), 1 p.m.
Hannover (Germany) vs. Brugge (Belgium), 3:05 p.m.
Porto (Portugal) vs. Manchester City (England), 3:05 p.m.
Steaua Bucharest (Romania) vs. Twente (Netherlands), 3:05 p.m.
Stoke (England) vs. Valencia (Spain), 3:05 p.m.
Trabzonspor (Turkey) vs. PSV Eindhoven (Netherlands), 3:05 p.m.
Udinese (Italy) vs. PAOK Thessaloniki (Greece), 3:05 p.m.
Wisla Krakow (Poland) vs. Standard Liege (Belgium), 3:05 p.m.

FRANCE

COUPE DE FRANCE

ROUND OF 16
Yesterday's results
Dijon 0 Paris Saint-Germain 1
Marseille 3 Bourg-Peronnas 1

ITALY

SERIE A

Yesterday's results
Atalanta 1 Genoa 0
Parma 0 Juventus 0
Catania at Cesena (ppd., weather)

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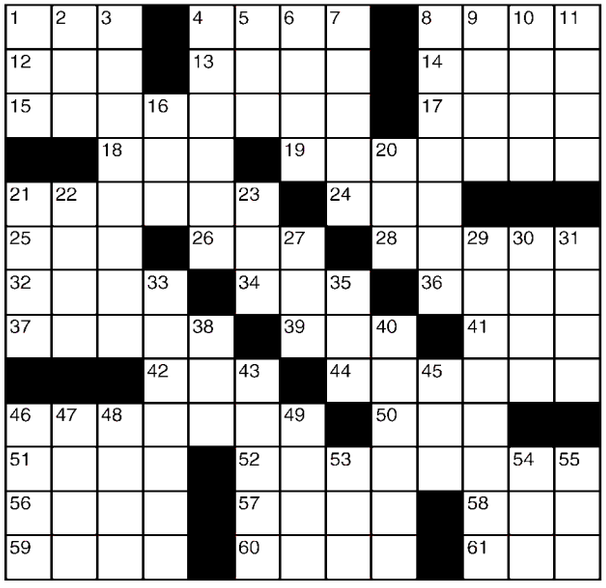
Crossword



Across

1 Burst
4 Answer an invite
8 Mid-June honorees
12 George's brother
13 — out (supplements)
14 Out of the storm
15 Unimprovable place
17 "— do for now"
18 Back
19 Great commotion
21 "America's Got —"
24 First st.
25 Wall climber
26 Listener
28 Distance down
32 Nap
34 Crazy
36 Avis adjective
37 Basin accessories
39 Pie filling?
41 Deteriorate
42 Last (Abbr.)
44 Political argument
46 Colored like hippie shirts
50 Website section, often
51 Opposed to
52 South American country
56 Old card game
57 Thing
58 Heady brew
59 "South Park" kid
60 Knighted woman
61 Playing marble

Down

1 Spot on a domino
2 "... man — mouse?"
3 Render immobile
4 Given a makeover
5 Tackle moguls
6 Two-piece suit's lack
7 Intellectual pretender
8 Company that merged with Benz in 1926
9 Choir member
10 Sandwich shop
11 Vend
16 Census stat
20 Roulette bet
21 Ocean motion
22 Acknowledge
23 Highlander's hat
27 Aries
29 Strong herbicide
30 Jog
31 Loathe
33 Scholarly
35 Flop
38 Crafty
40 Malign
43 Lukewarm
45 Satchel
46 Chore
47 Black
48 List-ending abbr.
49 Information
53 Sleep phenom
54 Carte lead-in
55 Evergreen type

▶ Yesterday's answer

Sudoku

			6	9		8	7	4
				1			6	2
		2				3		
9			7				4	
		4				6		
	3				4			1
		8				2		
3	4			6				
2	7	5		3	1			

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

4	5	2	3	9	6	1	8	7
3	1	7	8	2	4	5	9	6
6	9	8	1	5	7	2	4	3
7	2	3	5	1	8	4	6	9
9	8	6	4	7	2	3	1	5
1	4	5	9	6	3	7	2	8
2	3	1	7	8	9	6	5	4
8	6	4	2	3	5	9	7	1
5	7	9	6	4	1	8	3	2

Send a KISS

You can now post your kiss, and read even more kisses, at metronews.ca/kiss.

To the love of my life
On this day, I simply want to say you mean everything to me.... and I have been thinking of you every single moment of every hour of the day. **SANAM**

Brian
You have made today very special for me.. I cannot wait to have many more.. I will love you forever and always. **YOUR PRINCESS**

Honey
You fill me up with inspiration, passion, adornment, love and faith. You give me a reason to hope, dream, and accomplish. Setting goals with each other and watching them come to life is absolutely amazing. You fulfill all my hearts desires and all my lifes wonders. I am content and could ask for nothing more. Happy valentines day to you!!!! The one and only love of my life. **RYAN**

Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20
You want to take a risk but you are also fearful of making a mistake. If you play safe now, you will surely regret it later on.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21
Even if those you love think that what you are doing is wrong, they will still help you to do it today.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21
The bigger the challenge, the more you will like it today. Even rivals will admire the way you push through against the odds.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 Others may say you are expecting too much of yourself but you know you have been expecting too little.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23
If the old way of doing things no longer seems to work, by all means try something new.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22
This is the perfect time to do something others will be talking about (for good reasons) for years.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23
You will do something that does not come naturally. You may discover you have a talent of which you were previously unaware.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22
Follow your instincts wherever they might lead you and don't worry that some people might think you are mad.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 You will have to work hard for other people today and you won't have much time for yourself.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20
Some things you say over the next 24 hours could have those around you squirming. The truth is the truth and you won't twist it.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18
Sometimes in life you have to bend the truth a little and that seems to be the case today.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20 Mercury in your sign linked to expansive Jupiter means you are in excellent form intellectually at the moment. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Caption contest

SETH WNIG/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DAVID GUTTENFELDER/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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